

NATIONAL TEACHERS WEEK

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand in support of our National Teachers Week.

As the husband of a teacher, the brother of a teacher, and the lucky student of great teachers in the Jefferson County Public School system and the University of Colorado, I hold this profession in very hard regard.

Our Nation's teachers work tirelessly to provide education, resources, and a bright future for all of American students.

Colorado is blessed with a dedicated community of teachers in both K-12 and higher education. Teachers provide an invaluable service to our country, while earning salaries that do not reflect the importance of their jobs.

Every day, I hear about teachers striving to improve their schools and outcomes for their students. America's students now face one of the most competitive economies in our history.

Strong teachers are the key to the successful education of our children, and those same children are key to a prosperous, healthy, and successful future for our country and for the planet.

Thank you to all the teachers in my life, the Seventh Congressional District, and the State of Colorado.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, teachers are remarkable people. These dedicated professionals work hard to ensure that our children have the skills necessary to succeed and achieve the American Dream.

They get up early and stay up late, often sacrificing their own time and money, so our children have a fair shot at future success.

They don't do it for fame; though glory, they should receive. They don't do it for fortune; though riches, they do deserve. They do it because they love their jobs and care about their students. It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of our Nation's teachers to our country's strength and prosperity.

One of those teachers is my sister-in-law, Mandy Messer, who teaches elementary school at North Decatur Elementary.

A day should not pass that we don't thank teachers for their service on behalf of our children and our country.

Today, during Teacher Appreciation Week, I say thank to you my former teachers who played such an important role in my own life, and I express my gratitude to all the teachers throughout my congressional district who are doing such wonderful work.

SEEKING MAXIMUM
PARTISANSHIP

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, last night, Republicans and Democrats on our House Armed Services Committee came together to pass a defense bill that all of us—I mean all of us—all of us on the committee could support. That is something remarkable, considering what is on the House floor this week.

Instead of debating the minimum wage, we are getting maximum partisanship. Instead of creating a select committee on job creation, we are voting to create a select committee on Benghazi, shamefully playing politics with a terrible tragedy.

The only person whose job the majority seems to care about is the former Secretary of State's. The national climate assessment released this week laid bare the consequences of climate change, but sadly, instead of reducing our carbon footprint, we get a climate of dysfunction and hot air.

Enough is enough. House leadership should follow the example of the House Armed Services Committee. Put the partisanship aside and get to work on the things that really matter to the American people.

WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, career and technical education is critical to our economy.

I have a great program in my district, the Warren County Career Center, in Lebanon, Ohio. I have had the opportunity to tour the program a number of times. They do a great job.

Two success stories—Karie Lacy and Nick Cornett—both completed programs at the Warren County Career Center. Karie now owns her own salon and employs others; and Nick is working at a local robotics company, while working towards a degree in electrical engineering.

There are others like Karie and Nick across America who deserve access to programs that will prepare them for the workforce and lay the foundation for a successful career.

As we work together to strengthen our economy, we should support institutions like the Warren County Career Center. Programs like this, we should support all across America.

THE KIDNAPPINGS IN NIGERIA

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the tragic and shocking turn of events in Nigeria, where as many as 300 young girls have

been abducted by a terrorist organization known as Boko Haram.

As a father, I can't imagine the anguish that these parents must be feeling as they wonder about what happened to their young girls.

I stand in solidarity with the people of Nigeria in this difficult time and condemn the violence against innocent people committed by Boko Haram and urge that all possible actions be taken and that President Jonathan finally do something about the terrorists and the thugs that seem to be ruling the country.

Too often, women and young girls are tragically persecuted, victimized, or denied education opportunities and a voice, particularly in these countries, based only on their gender. The violence and discrimination has no place in our world today.

Today, I will be joining my fellow colleagues and urging them to sign on to House Resolution 573, to condemn this heinous abduction, and supporting all efforts to find these girls and bring them home.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAST BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. PERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor East Berlin, Pennsylvania, on its 250th anniversary. The borough was founded on May 8, 1764, by John Frankenger, a Prussian, who purchased 200 acres of land from Thomas and Richard Penn.

John laid out a town with 85 lots, one main street, four cross streets, and five alleys. He named the town "Berlin" after his native town in Prussia. East was added to the name in 1827, when the town post office was established.

Today, East Berlin is a thriving community of over 1,400 residents in Adams County. I am proud to congratulate East Berlin on this momentous day and wish the borough another successful 250 years.

SOLVENCY OF THE HIGHWAY
TRUST FUND

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued concerns about the highway trust fund, which is projected to reach a critically low level in July, right in the middle of the busy summer construction season.

This funding is essential to projects in New Hampshire, and we simply cannot let the highway trust fund run out of money. It would cost us jobs, jeopardize public safety, and hurt our economy.

That is why I am introducing a bill to ensure that the highway trust fund